the existing wells and pumps this question may wait for some more time.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* With respect to answer (*c*), may I know what the Government propose to do with the present large tank at Mala?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The matter is under consideration. I wanted to investigate whether improving this tank would not be better than sinking a smaller one. I have asked them to submit a report in the matter.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I hope that no final conclusion has been reached with respect to the matter referred to in answer (*c*)?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. No final conclusion has been reached.

FOOT-PATH—MANJANAKKAD JETTY TO NARAKKAL—OPENING OF

302. Mr. M. L. Joseph (*Latin Christians-Cranganur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have received any petition requesting for the opening of a foot-path from Manjanakkad boat jetty to Narakkal ;

(*b*) whether the Government have at any time sanctioned any amount for the opening of the construction of the said foot-path ;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative,

(*i*) whether anything has been done with a view to the construction of the foot-path;

(*ii*) if not, what has been done with the amount sanctioned for that purpose;

(*d*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the negative, whether the Government are aware that the said foot-path is an absolute necessity?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) (*i*) The land acquisition proceedings were taken up but not completed.

(*ii*) The amounts lapsed to the Sirkar.

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(*d*) The foot-path referred to is a necessity. But considering the exorbitant cost of land acquisition, *i. e.*, Rs. 5,400 it involves, the question of opening the road can be considered, provided the lands required are got surrendered free of cost.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli) :* May I know, Sir, when was the land acquisition proceedings begun?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development) :* A few years back. 1110.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Was there any petition or representation from the people of that locality, afterwards, saying that the foot-path referred to in the answer is an immediate necessity ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* May I know whether it is the policy of the Government that such foot-paths are opened only if the people of the locality surrender the required lands free of cost?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The finances are limited. The land acquisition charges alone come to a pretty big amount. Unless the people co-operate with the Government, Government will not be in a position to undertake works of this nature. If the people are willing to give some help, certainly the Government will undertake this work.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural) :* May I know, Sir, how the Government came to the conclusion that the land acquisition charges would come to Rs. 5,400 when the acquisition proceedings are not yet complete?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think the Department made a preliminary calculation as to what it would be.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Government have offered to the people of that locality that in case they surrender their lands, a foot-path will be opened? Were they made known of this suggestion?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I do not know whether this offer was made. But we are willing to make that offer now.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* What is the extent of the land that will be required for the foot-path?

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin Christians-Cranganur):* Have the Government enquired whether anybody was prepared to surrender the lands?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice?

Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin Christians-Cranganur):* May I know, Sir, when there is necessity for a foot-path whether Government would require every bit of land to be surrendered free or whether Government are willing to pay any cost?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Certainly, Government will be willing to consider this question. If some kind of co-operation is forthcoming, Government would not be asking for free surrender. If my hon'ble friend will induce people to surrender at least a good portion of the land the remaining portion of it will be acquired by Government.

Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin Christians-Cranganur):* Is the Government aware that there is a necessity for the said foot-path?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I perfectly admit that there is a necessity for this foot-path.

Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin Christians-Cranganur):* Were not the people of the locality called upon to see whether they are prepared to surrender their lands free or not?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I was not in charge of this department then.

Mr. M. L. Joseph *(Latin Christians-Cranganur):* Were the people informed that this was the policy of the Government?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Many people were informed that the foot-path is a necessity. I do not deny that for a moment. But the only thing is about the cost. If the people will be willing to surrender a portion of their lands for the foot-path, which will ultimately increase the value of their lands, certainly Government will undertake it.

HEALTH CENTRES OF NEMMARA AND KUNNAMKULAM— ABOLITION OF

303. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for selecting the Health Centres of Kunnamkulam and Nemmara for abolition?

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